

Supreme Court holds hearing on education finance

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OLYMPIA, Wash. — The Washington Legislature has another date with the state Supreme Court on Wednesday.

The court has ordered lawmakers to explain why they haven't followed its orders to fix the way Washington pays for public education.

Lawmakers, the governor and others say the court needs to be patient and give the Legislature more time to fulfil the orders in the 2012 McCleary decision. The Supreme Court set a 2018 deadline.

The attorney for the coalition that successfully sued the state over education funding says the Legislature has made so little progress toward meeting the court order only more pressure will make it happen.

Among the reforms awaiting payment: all-day kindergarten in every school; more instructional hours for high school students to help them earn 24 credits to graduate; pupil transportation fully supported by state dollars; a new formula for school staffing levels, smaller classes in the lower grades; and more state support for school equipment and supplies.

Read more here: http://www.theolympian.com/2014/09/03/3297952_supreme-court-holds-hearing-on.html?sp=/99/224/&rh=1#storylink=cpy